

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	371590
<015>	Study Area Name	SODTOWN TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Judy Christiansen
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	4028181322 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com
	Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

<010>	Study Area Code	371590
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<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service outages? No

**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request
Data Collection Form**

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<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

0

<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

NA

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

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<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	Offered only fixed voice 0 . 0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

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<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
371590neService Quality510.pdf		
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com
<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	371590neEmergencyCertification610.pdf

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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	17.5

[illegible]

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-- See attached worksheet --

**(800) Operating Companies
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Sodtown Telephone Company
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable
<812>	Operating Company	NA

[illegible]

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
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 July 2013

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<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N) No

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select Yes or No or Not Applicable

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability
Data Collection Form**

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<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate
comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

Not Applicable

<1020> Broadband comparability certification

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband
comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

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<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
Lifeline
Data Collection Form

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<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

371590nelifeline1210.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <1221> | Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1222> | Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1223> | Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

July 2013

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Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.
- <2022> Recipient certifies, representing year three after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

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(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

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July 2013

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)

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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)		
Yes - Attach Certification			
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}		371590nePublicInterest3010B.pdf
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	No - No New Community Anchors	
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:			
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:			
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3021)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.		<input type="checkbox"/>
If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:			
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3025)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	371590ne3026.pdf

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
		July 2013

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Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue	<div></div>
(3028) Operating Expenses	<div></div>
(3029) Net Income	<div></div>
(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)	<div></div>
(3031) Total Assets	<div></div>
(3032) Total Debt	<div></div>
(3033) Total Equity	<div></div>
(3034) Dividends	<div></div>

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4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission’s public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

4003b. Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)

4004a. Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

4004b. Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

**Certification - Reporting Carrier
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
---	--

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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Consortia Consulting</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	Consortia Consulting
Name of Reporting Carrier:	SODTOWN TEL CO
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/03/2017
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	Michael Plautz
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	Secretary
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	3084672310 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	371590 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	SODTOWN TEL CO
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	Consortia Consulting
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/03/2017
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	Judy Christiansen
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	Consultant
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	4028181322 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	371590 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	17.5

[illegible]

(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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[illegible]

Sodtown Telephone Company

Certification of Compliance with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules

Service Quality Standards

The Company:

- Provides voice grade access to the public switched network.
- Provides flat rated local exchange service with no additional charge to end users.
- Provides access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911.
- Provides toll blocking and toll limitation services.
- Advertises the availability of its services and the charges using media of general distribution.
- Provides customers with access to the company employee either in person or via a local telephone call.
- Directs after hour calls to the company employee.
- Tracks service orders to ensure they are completed in a timely manner.
- Employee will:
 - Respond to all inquiries for information promptly and courteously.
 - Investigate thoroughly all customer complaints and handle appropriately.
 - Be knowledgeable about service offerings in order to assist the customer with selecting the best service option.
- Has a process for periodic inspection, testing and preventive maintenance of its equipment to permit the rendering of safe, adequate and continuous service at all times.

Consumer Protection Rules

The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules which include compliance with the Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules. The operating procedures include:

- Appointment of a compliance officer.
- A manual detailing the specific procedures for protecting consumer information.
- Employee training.
- A disciplinary process for improper use of consumer information.

Sodtown Telephone Company
Functionality in Emergency Situations

Back-Up Power

The Company has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source. It has two sets of batteries that will provide a minimum of eight hours of use. The Company also has a generator that remains in the central office at all times.

Rerouting of Traffic around Damaged Facilities

The Company does not have redundant facilities that allow it to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, but the Company does have materials on hand at all times so that it can repair the damaged facilities quickly.

Traffic Spikes

The Company has a Taqua switch that has a large amount of switching capacity. Since the Company has less than 100 customers, there is a significant amount of unused switching capacity to handle sporadic traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. The Company has an agreement with Taqua to provide support for the switch 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Sodtown Telephone Company

Lifeline Terms and Conditions

Sodtown offers Lifeline program-supported service to qualified low-income residential consumers. The federal Lifeline and The Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program (NTAP) assistance reduces the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service by \$3.50. The federal Lifeline program reduces costs of telephone or broadband internet access service (BIAS) by \$9.25. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$12.75 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in the programs. Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. In addition, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission administers NTAP and the federal Lifeline program.

NTAP Eligibility Information

Program Based Eligibility

To qualify for services, subscribers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program/Kids Connection (SAM, MAC or EMAC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); (formerly the Food Stamps Program)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit

To receive an application, contact your local *Health and Human Services* agency caseworker or the *Nebraska Public Service Commission*, 1200 N Street, Suite 300, PO Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68508-4927, Phone: 402-471-3101, Toll Free: 1-800-526-0017 or http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips_ntap.html

Applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means.

Acceptable documentation of program-based eligibility includes: current or prior year's statement of benefits from a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; notice letter of participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; program participation documents; or another official document evidencing the consumer's participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program.

Income Based Eligibility

In addition, consumers are eligible if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

2017 Federal Poverty Guidelines – 135%

Household Size	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$16,281	\$20,331	\$18,711
2	\$21,924	\$27,392	\$25,205
3	\$27,567	\$34,452	\$31,698
4	\$32,853	\$41,513	\$38,192
5	\$34,496	\$48,573	\$44,685
6	\$44,496	\$55,634	\$51,179
7	\$50,139	\$62,694	\$57,672
8	\$55,782	\$69,755	\$64,166
For each additional person, add	\$5,643	\$7,061	\$6,494

Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes: prior year's state, federal or Tribal tax return; current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub; social security statement of benefits; Veterans Administration statement of benefits; retirement/pension statement of benefits; unemployment/workmen's compensation statement of benefits; federal or Tribal notice of letter participating in General Assistance; or a divorce decree or child support award or other official document containing income information.

Tribal Eligibility

A subscriber who lives on Tribal lands and is an eligible resident of Tribal lands is eligible for Tribal Lifeline service or Tribal Link Up if the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household participates in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Tribal subscribers should contact Sodtoun for additional information on Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up.

Program Service

Sodtoun's Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program services include unlimited local minutes-of-use within the toll-free calling area. Sodtoun Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program does not include any free minutes-of-use for toll. Toll is billed at the standard toll rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for toll service. As part of the service, Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost.

BIAS minimum speed and usage allowance standards are required for the service to qualify.

Lifeline recipients may transfer the Lifeline benefit to a new company once every sixty days for telephone service and once every 12 months for BIAS.

Rates

Subscribers may receive the NTAP and federal Lifeline Program credit on any type or grade of local service, including bundled services that are normally offered by Sodtoun. The federal Lifeline program credit is also available on BIAS. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges.

Recertification of NTAP Eligibility

Service recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient's continued eligibility for service will result in termination of the service recipient's monthly service discount and de-enrollment from service.

Additional NTAP Program Information

NTAP and the federal Lifeline program are limited to one benefit per household. A household is defined as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. NTAP and the federal Lifeline Program are government benefit programs, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

Sodtown Telephone Company

Certification of Public Interest Obligations

Sodtown Telephone Company does not provide broadband service to its customers. But, the subscribers do have broadband service available from other providers that meets the 1M up and 10M down requirement.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY

A Cooperative Corporation

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Administrator
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

RE: WC Docket No. 10-90 – Section 54.313(f)(2) for Sodtown Telephone Company
(SAC 371590)

I certify that Sodtown Telephone Company is not audited in the ordinary course of business. I also certify that the reported data included in the attached financials that have been reviewed by Erickson & Brooks, Certified Public Accountants, is accurate.

Certification Signature:

Michael Plautz

Name:

Michael Plautz

Title:

Secretary

Date:

May 25 - 2017

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY

RAVENNA, NEBRASKA

DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Independent Accountant's Review Report	1
Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheets	2
Statements of Income	3
Statements of Changes in Members' Equity	4
Statements of Cash Flows	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6 - 8

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Erickson & Brooks

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

STEVEN E. PRIBNOW
DANIEL J. WIESEN
KENT P. SPEICHER

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Sodtown Telephone Company
Ravenna, Nebraska

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Sodtown Telephone Company (a corporation), which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related statements of income, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of company management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

ERICKSON & BROOKS

Erickson & Brooks

Fremont, Nebraska
March 13, 2017

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
BALANCE SHEETS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

ASSETS

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Temporary cash investments	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Telecommunications accounts receivable	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Materials and supplies (at cost)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Prepaid income taxes	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Prepaid expenses	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Total current assets	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Property, plant and equipment:		
Telecommunication plant in service	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Less accumulated provision for depreciation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]

LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Customer deposits	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Total current liabilities	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Equity:		
Memberships	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Patrons' capital credits assigned	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Patrons' capital credits assignable	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Retained earnings	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
STATEMENTS OF INCOME
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Operating revenues:		
Basic local network services	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Network access services	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Billing and collection	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Miscellaneous	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Operating expenses:		
Plant specific operations	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Plant nonspecific operations	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Depreciation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Customer operations	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Corporate operations	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Property taxes	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Operating income	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Other income (expense):		
Interest income	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Dividend income	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Miscellaneous	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Special charges	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net income	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' EQUITY
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	<u>Membership Certificates</u>	<u>Patrons' Capital Credits Assigned</u>	<u>Patrons' Capital Credits Assignable</u>	<u>Retained Earnings</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance - December 31, 2014	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net income	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Assignment of 2014 patrons' capital	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Distributions	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Balance - December 31, 2015	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Change in memberships	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net income	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Assignment of 2015 patrons' capital	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Balance - December 31, 2016	<u>\$ [REDACTED]</u>	<u>\$ [REDACTED]</u>	<u>\$ [REDACTED]</u>	<u>\$ [REDACTED]</u>	<u>\$ [REDACTED]</u>

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from consumers	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		
Interest and dividends received		
Net cash provided by operating activities	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Deferred insurance proceeds	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net cash used by investing activities	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Capital credits paid	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Memberships returned		
Increase in:		
Customer deposits and advanced payments	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net cash used by financing activities	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cash - beginning of year	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cash - end of year	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Net income	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Reinvested interest income		
(Increase) decrease in:		
Accounts receivable	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Prepayments		
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accounts payable	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ [REDACTED]	\$ [REDACTED]

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

Sodtown Telephone Company provides communication services to customers located in rural Ravenna, Nebraska. The Company grants credit to customers, substantially all of whom are residents of the areas served.

System of Accounts

The accounting policies of the company conform to generally accepted accounting principles and reflect practices appropriate to the telephone industry. The accounting records of the company are maintained in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts for Class A and B Telephone Utilities as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Property and Equipment

Telephone plant is capitalized at original cost, including the capitalized cost of salaries and wages, materials, certain payroll taxes and employee benefits.

Renewals and betterments of units of property are charged to telephone plant in service. When telephone plant is retired, its cost is removed from the asset account and charged against accumulated depreciation, together with removal costs less any salvage realized. No gains or losses are recognized in connection with routine retirements of depreciable telephone property. Substantial early retirements of assets are charged to deferred charges and amortized in accordance with the rules of the Nebraska Public Service Commission. Repairs and renewals of minor items of property are included in plant specific operations expense.

Depreciation

The Company provides for depreciation for financial reporting purposes on the straight-line method by the application of rates based on the estimated service lives of the various classes of depreciable property, as approved by the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

Cash and Temporary Cash Investments

Cash consists primarily of checking and savings accounts, which may be liquidated in a period of less than 90 days. Certificates of deposit and other securities with original maturities of one year or less are classified as short-term cash investments. Cash and short-term cash investments are stated at cost, which approximates market value.

Telecommunications Accounts Receivable

The Company carries its accounts receivable at cost. Management evaluates its accounts receivable on a periodic basis. Doubtful accounts are written off as deemed necessary. It is management's opinion that all accounts represented on the balance sheet are collectible.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(continued)

Materials and Supplies

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined principally by the average cost method. Inventories consist of finished goods such as cable and pedestals.

Patronage Capital

The Company is a Cooperative of which most subscribers are members. A membership certificate is issued to each subscriber who becomes a member, which will allow the subscriber to vote at the annual meeting. Each subscriber is allocated a portion of margins from member income based on usage.

Revenue Recognition

Toll, access, local service and miscellaneous revenues are recognized when earned regardless of the period in which they are billed.

Network access revenue related to interlata and intralata toll service is received under a system of access charges. Access charges represent a methodology by which local telephone companies, including the Company, charge the long distance carrier for access and interconnection to local facilities. The Company follows an access tariff filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission for intrastate charges and the Federal Communications Commission for interstate charges.

When network access service revenues have been received pursuant to the settlement and access agreements above, they are divided into traffic sensitive, nontraffic sensitive and billing and collecting portions. The revenues are then either placed into a common pooling arrangement with other exchange carriers for redistribution or kept by the Company. The redistributions are made according to formulas established by the governing boards of the pools and are generally based upon expenses incurred and investment maintained. The Company participates in a pooling arrangement with the National Exchange Carrier Association.

Interstate settlement, access, and pool distribution revenues are recorded when the amounts become determinable. Related expenses are recorded when incurred. Subsequent true-ups and retroactive adjustments, which are generally allowed for a period of 24 months after the close of the related calendar year, are recorded in the year in which such adjustments become determinable.

In addition to recoveries from NECA, the Company also receives revenue from the Universal Service High Cost Loop Fund administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). The amount of support received from USAC is based on the number of customers served and the cost of providing services in that area being in excess of the national average, as determined by the FCC. The Company received [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015.

The ability of NECA and USAC to provide these revenues to organizations similar to the Company is contingent upon regulatory and legislative rules which provide for the continuance of rate of return regulation and universal service support as currently enacted. Any regulatory or legislative changes that reduce the rate of return or universal support mechanism and the amount of revenues may have a material impact on the Company.

Income Taxes

The Company reports taxable income under Section 501(c)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code as a nonexempt cooperative, permitting the cooperative to exclude from taxable income, margins generated from providing communication services to patrons. When income from nonmember sources exceeds a set percentage of total income established by the Internal Revenue Service, the non-patron source income becomes subject to taxation. Income taxes herein are provided for the tax effects of nonmember transactions reported in the financial statements and consist of taxes currently due plus deferred taxes.

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SODTOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY
RAVENNA, NEBRASKA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015
(continued)

In accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Accounting Standard's Codification No. 740, the Company is required to inventory, evaluate, and measure all uncertain tax positions taken or to be taken on tax returns, and to record liabilities for the amount of such positions that may not be sustained, or may only partially be sustained, upon examination by relevant taxing authorities. The Company's income tax filings are subject to audit by various taxing authorities. The Company's open audit periods are 2013-2016. In evaluating the Company's tax provisions and accruals, future taxable income, and the reversal of temporary differences, interpretations, and tax planning strategies are considered. The Company believes their estimates are appropriate based on current facts and circumstances.

Sales Tax

The Company excludes from its sales all sales taxes assessed to its customers. Sales taxes assessed are recorded as accrued liabilities on the balance sheet until remitted to the state agencies.

Note 2 - Investment in Property, Plant and Equipment

Telephone plant in service and under construction is stated at cost. Listed below are the major classes of telephone plant in service and the composite depreciation rates as of December 31, 2016 and 2015.

	<u>Rates</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Other work equipment		\$	\$
Buildings			
Furniture and office equipment			
Central office equipment			
Buried plant			
Less: Accumulated depreciation			
Net property, plant and equipment		\$	\$

The Company provides for depreciation on a straight-line basis at annual rates which will amortize the depreciable property over its estimated useful life.

Note 3 - Concentration of Credit Risk

The Company maintains its cash balances with one financial institution located in Cairo, Nebraska. At times, these balances may exceed the limits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). At December 31, 2016, combined uninsured amounts held at this financial institution totaled [REDACTED]

Note 4 - Subsequent Events

The Company has evaluated all subsequent events through March 13, 2017, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no events that required disclosure.